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EDITOR

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## IF INTERVENTION COMES.

Cuban occupation would mean a protectorate for the time being, with an American governor or dictator in power, supported by troops and ships.

The Governor's first business would be to restore order throughout the island, set the civil law in motion and promote industry.

After a sufficient time had elapsed, and popular unrest had given way to labor and thrift, it would be the duty of the Governor to order a plebiscite and let either the people as a whole, or the educated and responsible classes, decide as to the future form of government, between autonomy and annexation.

Should the Cubans vote for autonomy it would be the business of the American governor to order general elections of officials, executive and legislative, and secure a free ballot and a fair count.

The elected government being in place, the American governor would withdraw and take his garrisons with him.

On the other hand if the Cubans should decide for annexation, the governor would transmit their request to the President and he would lay it before Congress, with or without his recommendation.

Congress would act, if at all, through the medium of a joint resolution.

## OTIS AND LABOR UNIONS.

The News-Letter is authority for the statement that General H. G. Otis of the Los Angeles Times will invade the newspaper field of San Francisco and establish a morning daily to be known as the San Francisco Times. Its special mission will be to fight the labor unions.

Undoubtedly they need some man-handling. Rational unionism, as it exists in England, is a very different thing from the grafting tyrannies of American trades-unionism, especially the sort they have in San Francisco. In that unlucky town, the investor in any business employing skilled or crude labor has long since ceased to control his own property; and as the unions feel their growing power they use it to impose deliberate blackmail upon the man or men to whom their employees are looking for a living. The late street car strike in San Francisco was wanton; the stevedore's strike was both wanton and murderous; and the action of the unions in forcing and sustaining a wage-rate of \$8 per day for bricklayers is a draft upon the vital forces of the town, inspired by greed and enforced by threats.

General Otis has done much to curb the spirit and defeat the ends of unionism in Los Angeles and if he goes into the fight at San Francisco he will have the record of many triumphs to inspire his courage. But he will also have the battle of his life to wage and one may doubt that a man of his advanced years can hope to see it through. However, if a start is to be made in the good work, there is no better man than Harrison Grey Otis to lead.

## IN THE MATTER OF DIALECTS.

"It is high time," remarks the London Saturday Review, "that the Home of the Free and the Paradise of the Half-educated should be provided with a tongue of its own. President Roosevelt has watched with sympathy, and stimulated by example, the efforts of his countrymen to emancipate themselves from Old-World conventions. Should anybody dispute the patriotic claim, let him search the files of American newspapers and read, if he can, the twenty or thirty columns of the President's last message to Congress. It is something, but it is not enough, that in some of the States the spoken language is almost unintelligible to a Britisher. Consider, too, the astonishing variety of the independent dialects which have arisen within the Union. It is even declared that a citizen's domicile may be identified when you hear him eating pie. Here we are presented with a beautiful illustration of that 'progress from the homogeneous to the heterogeneous,' which Mr. Herbert Spencer regarded as a symptom and condition of development from the lower towards the higher life."

Just fawney! Here is a land large enough to conceal the British Isles in some of its mountain valleys and it has acquired, most improbably, an "astonishing variety of independent dialects." Heah, heah! And over there in the land of the King's English, where 'Arry 'asn't a day off when he doesn't 'ave to 'eave a brick at a Yorkshireman, who responded "Thou be dahmed" to an invitation to lend him "a paound," one may observe a braw laddie complaining that "th' whnsky at the pooble inn is verra bod" and a gosssoon who avers that it is "aisy money" that he "eud lick a Sandthers annyhow."

It is indeed painful to confess that America has its dialects, but it may outgrow them now that emigration from Hingland, Oireland and Scotland is easing up.

## PROSPEROUS PORTO RICO.

Nothing shows more forcibly the contrasting effects of American and Spanish insular rule, than the figures of export trade in the Philippines, Guam and Porto Rico. The returns from the latter possession have lately been issued. They show that Porto Rican exports, in the fiscal year just ended were practically twice as great in value as in any year under Spanish rule and about 25 per cent. greater than in any previous year under American rule. The total value of the merchandise sent out of the island in the fiscal year 1906 was \$23,250,000, against \$18,750,000 in the immediately preceding year, while the highest figures in any year under Spanish rule was \$12,750,000, or practically one-half of the figures of fiscal year 1906.

This statement, by which it is possible to accurately compare the value of exports in 1906 with that of earlier years, is the result of an analysis of the earlier commerce made by the Bureau of Statistics of the Department of Commerce and Labor, in which analysis the official figures of exports from 1880 to 1899 are reduced to a gold basis. Official statements of the exports of Porto Rico made prior to American control and the introduction of American currency were stated in silver currency, the value of which fluctuated greatly from year to year and month to month. Recently the Bureau of Statistics obtained from Porto Rico a statement of the average monthly exchange value of the peso during a long term of years, and by an application of this to the stated value in pesos is able to present a statement of the gold value of the merchandise exported from the islands during a long term of years.

The total value of exports ranged from \$8,000,000 to \$12,000,000 during the period from 1880 to 1898, the year of occupation by the United States, the highest figures stated in gold values being in 1892, \$12,758,978, and the lowest figure \$8,238,332, in 1891. In 1899, following the losses in crop-producing power resulting from the hurricane, the exports fell to about \$6,000,000. In 1901 they were nearly \$9,000,000, in 1902 \$12,500,000, in 1903 \$15,000,000, in 1904 \$15,250,000, in 1905 \$18,750,000, and in 1906, as above indicated, \$23,250,000. These figures of "exports" include, of course, the shipments to the United States, which, although not technically exports under the present relation of Porto Rico to the United States, are included in this general statement of the value of merchandise shipped out of the island.

This increase of practically 100 per cent. in the value of merchandise shipped out of the island as compared with the best years under Spanish rule, occurs chiefly in sugar and manufactures of tobacco. The quantity of sugar sent out of the island never reached as much as 100,000 tons prior to 1903. In the fiscal year 1903 it was 104,000 tons, in 1904 115,000 tons, in the fiscal year 1906 about 180,000 tons, and in the present year will probably exceed 200,000 tons. The value of sugar exported never but once reached the \$7,000,000 line until the year 1903, when it was practically \$7,500,000, in the fiscal year 1904 \$8,500,000, in 1905 practically \$12,000,000, and in 1906 a little more than \$14,000,000, or practically double that of the banner year under Spanish occupation.

Statistics like these show how strong is the probability that the United States will have no serious trouble in managing its colonies. Unlike some European powers we have not acquired colonies to exploit them, but to make them prosperous through export thus giving them the means to repay us by their imports. Prosperous colonies never rebel and soon acquire the enlightened self-interest which answers for patriotism. Then they are safe possessions.

President Palma has resigned and the people at Central Valley, N. Y., will be in a state of pleasurable anticipation. Before going to Cuba to take the highest office, Mr. Palma was and had been for many years a school teacher there. Perhaps, now that he is out of the bigger job he will emulate Cincinnatus and go back to the lesser one.

The storm which wrecked Pensacola extended along the whole gulf-coast of the United States and did great damage at Mobile, Alabama, and in the Louisiana delta country. Such storms are not infrequent in the gulf and they have a cyclonic character against which the stoutest of wharves and seawalls

do not avail. When wind blows so hard that it smooths down the great billows of the sea and leaves a vista of flat, creamy swirls, steel buttressed seaports are needed to combat it. Galveston, after her sad experience a few years ago, did something in way of defence from the weather and the sea and it will be interesting, if the storm went so far, to hear how she fares.

The burglar still enjoys life and nothing pleases him more than to watch the "detective," disguised in a cowboy hat and a malle lei, standing on a street corner and trying to look intelligent.

Jack Kalakiela is a somewhat pervasive politician but he can find plenty of good company on all sides.

Lock your doors tonight. The police will all be at Aala Park rooting for the machine.

Whatever Dr. McGrew's language was it probably fitted the case as he saw it.

## FIRST BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Commercial Club of Honolulu came into actual being last night with the selection of the following Board of Governors:

Fred Damon, W. R. Farrington, W. T. Lucas, F. W. Macfarlane, J. D. McInerney, J. F. Morgan, E. H. Paris, M. Phillips, R. R. Reidford, A. G. M. Robertson, George W. Smith, R. H. Trent, James Wakefield, F. L. Waldron, H. P. Wood.

In his letter to the meeting of the members of the Commercial Club at the Promotion Committee rooms last evening chairman A. G. M. Robertson of the committee on organization said a charter of incorporation had been granted on August 30, and that the first board of governors shall be divided by lot into three classes having five members in each class, whose respective terms shall be one, two and three years.

He went on further to state that the committee had selected fifteen members to serve on the first board of governors. "The committee has been considerably embarrassed," said the letter, "by the fact that the list of subscribers contains so many good names that in limiting the list to fifteen names many representative men have necessarily been left out."

The by-laws of the organization were adopted without amendment.

A meeting of the Board of Governors was held afterwards to decide on the question of the arrangement of the rooms which are to be located in the top story of the new McCandless block, corner of King and Bethel streets.

Last night's meeting which was well attended was presided over by George W. Smith.

## P. WOODS RETRACTS

(Continued from Page 1.)

still pending. Mr. McClanahan arose and stated his willingness to meet Mr. Woods forthwith to see if they could not make some amicable agreement. Mr. Woods assenting to the proposition, the two gentlemen left the room, and after an absence of fifteen minutes returned with the announcement that they had reached an agreement. Mr. Woods at the same time handing the secretary a signed retraction of the objectionable matter and pledging himself to vote and work for the Democratic nominee for Delegate to Congress.

After three cheers for the National Committeeman, proposed by Mr. McClanahan, a return of the compliment for the nominee for Delegate, and hearty hand-shaking between the men whose differences had been so honorably adjusted, the meeting was adjourned.

## LOCAL BREVITIES.

Carry Marks, a little girl who disobeys the parental commands, is under arrest.

Judgment was rendered on Wednesday for the plaintiff in the cow case between Judge Cooper and the Club Stables.

Mrs. Kahoano of Kakaako is to tell in the police court this morning why she keeps a vicious dog and lets it lurch off a Jap's leg when so inclined.

For those who desire to visit the Japanese training ship Anegawa an opportunity will be given on Sunday, when the ship will be open for inspection from noon until three o'clock.

Two charges of assault and battery were registered yesterday against Antonio Santos, one by Virginia Silva, and the other by Linda Freitas. Santos will be up for trial this morning.

Chong Pang, who his countrymen say is too utterly lazy to work and prefers to pick his meals out of the scrap boxes of rice shops to earning them, got three months from Judge Whitney yesterday.

About one hundred voters attended the meeting held in San Antonio Hall last night by the Democrats in the Seventh of the Fourth. The meeting was addressed by Curtis Iaukea, Democratic nominee for Sheriff, by Mr. Silva, the candidate from the Fourth for Representative, and by C. W. Ashford.

Yee Man Dow, who was caught a few days ago prowling around the back yards of some of the Punahou residences with a bicycle lamp, was sentenced to nine months on the reef yesterday for vagrancy. He told a wildly improbable tale of working on a rice plantation, but could not give the name of the place nor of his boss. His explanation of the bicycle lamp and what he was doing on Punahou street were equally fishy.

Action is to be taken against a number of saloons of Chinatown where intoxicated persons are in the habit of getting their booze supply. The County Attorney has been supplied by the Treasurer with a list of twenty-four names of persons convicted of drunkenness for the third time within a short period, the selling of liquor to whom has been forbidden. One of the persons named in the list has a string of no fewer than seven convictions recorded against him.

The campaign in California was opened on Saturday last by both parties.

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